



Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Unimpaired vision is one of the most precious elements of good health; and
- WHEREAS: Over 50 percent of all blindness and 90 percent of all accidental blindness is preventable, yet each year 47,000 Americans lose their sight; and
- WHEREAS: The Minnesota Society for the Prevention of Blindness and Preservation of Hearing, a voluntary health agency operating since 1939, has developed screening tools, educational seminars, public information programs and other devices for the improvement of eye health and prevention of eye accidents; and
- WHEREAS: The Minnesota Adult Home Eye Screening aids in detecting glaucoma, cataract and macular degeneration - the three leading causes of blindness in adults; and
- WHEREAS: The Minnesota Society for the Prevention of Blindness and Preservation of Hearing has endorsed legislation that helped prevent thousands of potentially blinding accidents through the safe fireworks law (1941), BB gun legislation (1949), and driver's license vision testing (1969); and
- WHEREAS: Over 500,000 four-year-old children have been screened since the 1959 inception of the pre-school screening program;
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of September to be

P R E V E N T B L I N D N E S S M O N T H

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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Joan Anderson Howe
Secretary of State

in Minnesota, and urge all citizens to focus their attention in early diagnosis and care of eye diseases as well as preventing blindness in our industries, schools, farms and homes. #36804

FURTHER, I urge the cooperation of educational, civic and state agencies, along with the Minnesota Society for the Prevention of Blindness and Preservation of Hearing, in making not only September, but every month an opportunity to conserve the vision and promote the eye health of our citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this twenty-eighth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-six, and of the State the one hundred twenty-eighth

Joan Anderson Howe
Rudy Perpich
GOVERNOR